

Brecon.—The new Roman Catholic Church of St. Michael was opened on Wednesday week. The edifice is a plain structure in the Early English style, erected from designs by Mr. Charles Huggins, of Clifton, architect. It is 80 feet long by 22 feet wide, and is capable of accommodating about 300 people. The plan consists simply of a nave and chancel with double bellry at west end, and under which is a niche for a statue of the patron saint. The chancel is divided from nave by the usual chancel arch, and is lighted by a three-light window of a simple early tracery at the east end, and by a triplet of lancets at the north side, opposite to which is a sedile, recessed in the thickness of the wall, which throughout is of a massive character. Under the east window is the altar, upon which, and the tabernacle, all the ornament appears to be concentrated. In the centre panel is a figure of our Lord, situated on a rich throne and surrounded by angels, holding in one hand the orb, and giving his benediction with the other. On the right is a similar panel with St. Michael (the patron) in conflict with the Devil, and on the left is St. David (the patron of Wales) in the act of baptizing the ancient Britons. The three panels are sculptured. Messrs. Lane and Sons, of Clifton, executed them under the architect's direction. The lateral windows of the nave are single lancets, and at the west end is a two-light window with a quatrefoil. The roofs are open, rafter beams, &c. stained and varnished. The walls are built of local stone of a green tint, the dressings of Bath stone. The western bellry rises to the height of 50 feet, and, like the gallery, is surmounted by a floriated cross. The entire cost of church and priest's house is 1,600*l*. The builder is Mr. Strawbridge, jun. of Bristol. The brass work was supplied by Messrs. Evans, Thomason, and Brown, of Birmingham.

Liverpool.—A proposal to extend the bath accommodation in Cornwallis-street has been under the consideration of the committee. A report has been made by Mr. Newlands, as to the cost which would be incurred in removing the washhouse fittings from Cornwallis-street to Frederick-street, and fitting up the latter establishment as a washhouse only. Four estimates and plans were embraced in the report; and the fourth, though more expensive than the others, the engineer recommended as most complete and advantageous. It would involve an expense of 4,350*l*. The new arrangements, if adopted, will afford a largely-increased number of baths of the lowest class, including a spacious plunge-bath.

Doncaster.—A design for a memorial window adapted to the three large windows in the south side of the chancel of the parish church, has been prepared by Mr. Wailes, and it is intended that future memorial windows in this part of the church shall be required to adhere to the general design thus prepared in accordance with the architectural character of the chancel. The first of the series, according to the local *Gazette*, has been subscribed for.

Worcester.—The contracts for the new market-house, on the plan of Mr. Armstrong, architect, have been taken by Mr. R. Walburton, of London, for the general work, at 1,150*l*, and Mr. John Walker, also of London, for the iron and smith's work, at 870*l*. The present building is to be given up to the contractors on 13th October, and they have undertaken to complete the new market on 28th November.

Cardiff and Dowlais.—It is computed, says the *Cardiff Guardian*, that about 300 houses are now vacant in Merthyr and Dowlais. A considerable number of these unoccupied dwellings are situated in the main streets, while many more are cottages and cellars in the back streets. The slackness of trade is, doubtless, the cause of so many shops and other houses of business being untenanted; while the erection of a superior class of cottages, in healthy situations, is rapidly throwing the "human pigsties," which have too long disgraced the town, into becoming desolation.

Manchester.—The presentation of a plan-map of the township of Manchester, on the

unprecedented scale of eighty inches to the mile, it is said, has just been completed by Mr. Adhead, in a series of twenty-four maps, including an index map, filled with reference tables to the streets and public buildings. At Owen's College, a chemical lecture-room and laboratory have been completed from designs by and under the superintendence of Messrs. Travis and Mangnall, architects. The dimensions of the building, which is apparently of two stories, are 81 feet in length by 36 feet 10 inches in width. Its two principal rooms occupy the whole of the two stories in height, consisting of lecture-room and laboratory. The lecture-room for the chemical classes is 34 feet 6 inches by 26 feet 4 inches, with seats arranged octagonally so as to enable all the students to face the lecturer, and having accommodation for about 150 students. The adjoining laboratory is 51 feet in length by 21 feet wide, and 30 feet in height. It is to be fitted up with separate tables, &c. for 42 students. Both rooms are lighted by windows in the second story, and by skylights. Both are to be warmed and ventilated. The ceiling of the old Hall of Science, now in the occupation of the free library, having given way during the formation of the museum overhead, the architect, Mr. Pickard, has prepared plans for a new one, which is to be carried out at a reduced expense of 190*l*.

Bradford.—The Bradford Gas Light Company have resolved to reduce the price of their gas from 4*s*. 6*d*. to 4*s*. per thousand, the same discounts to be allowed as previously. "There is one point, however," says the *Bradford Observer*, "the justice of which is questionable, even if its policy be not equally doubtful: we refer to the new rule for charging 4*s*. to all small consumers whose half year's consumption does not amount to 1,000 feet. Why should they be compelled to pay for what they have not used? Why should the poor consumer have the rate of his gas increased, just at the very moment when the price is being lowered to his wealthier neighbours?"

Montrose.—The Peel statue committee here have arranged to take in proposals from artists for a statue of the late baronet, and to apply to the Town Council for a suitable site.

Armagh.—During a recent flood in this district eight bridges were swept away, mainly by the force of turf stacks washed against them.

CHURCH NEWS.

Ely.—A new church for a section of the parish of Dodington was consecrated on the 14th inst. by the Bishop of Ely. This church has been erected at the joint expense of Sir Henry Peyton, Bart., and the Rev. A. Peyton, the rector of Dodington, under the direction of Mr. Teulon, architect. It is a Decorated or Middle Pointed building, consisting of a nave and north aisle, with a tower and spire at the west end of the aisle: it has also a chancel. It is built of Caen stone from Downham, in Norfolk, with Caen stone dressings. The roofs are covered with Staffordshire tiles. It is calculated to accommodate 350 persons. The cost of erection was about 1,400*l*, exclusive of the concreting of foundations. Mr. Cushing, of Elmbam, Norfolk, was the contractor.

Riseholme.—On Thursday week the new church at Riseholme was consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln, who has been at the sole expense of its erection,—1,306*l*. Mr. Roebuck, of Lowth, was the builder; and Mr. Teulon the architect. The building consists of a nave, chancel, and transeptal chapel. The style is Decorated, and it is built of local stone, with dressings of Caen stone. The roofs are of open-framed English oak of the period, and covered with Staffordshire tiles alternated. The fittings are also of English oak, the reading-desk presenting some specimens of carving by Mr. Morland, of Lincoln. The nave is paved with Broseley tiles, red and black, placed triangularly, and the chancel is paved with Minton's encaustic tiles. The east wall of the chancel is decorated in polychrome, comprising the decalogue, &c. There are no pews, but the nave contains two rows of open seats, capable of holding about 130 persons.

The eastern window was painted by Gibbs, of London, and was presented by the archdeacon and clergy of the county of Lincoln: it is a five-light window, the centre compartment representing the "Crucifixion." The two south windows of the chancel are also painted by Gibbs, one presented by the archdeacon and clergy, and the other by the Rev. W. F. J. Kaye, and other members of the bishop's family,—the easternmost one, a two-light window, representing the Ascension and Descent of the Holy Ghost on the Apostles. The westernmost one is a three-light traceried window, the centre representing Christ instituting the Lord's Supper. The remaining windows are quarry-lights of pale-green, with white marginal glazing. The font is of Caen stone, carved. The church stands on an elevated platform.

Cambridge.—An ornamental Gothic font has lately been placed in Eton College Chapel, on the north side of the ante-chapel, as a memorial of a late resident master in Eton College. There is a suitable inscription on it.

Sherborne.—The nave of St. Mary's Cathedral Church having now been restored, the edifice was reopened on Wednesday week. The great west window has been glazed with ornamented glass, in imitation of the stained glass in use when the church was mainly erected. The principal figures are those of Jewish kings and prophets. The four middle-pointed windows of the north aisle are also restored in stained glass, with figures chiefly apostolical. The glasswork was executed by Messrs. Hardman and Co., of Birmingham. The roof is groined and highly decorated, with bosses and shields emblazoned. "The embellishments of the bosses and shields," says the *Sherborne Journal*, "cost, we believe, about 120*l*.: nearly all of them are said to be heraldic: even the basket-work, which occurs several times, is said to be a grotesque device of one Mr. Baakerville, who was a contributor to the building. At the spring of the arches of the north and south rows of windows, and at the crown of the arches of the aisle, are several larger shields. That with a ram and scroll is the device of Peter Ramsam, the abbot, to whom the principal part of the restoration of the western part of the church is ascribed. His device is repeated in other shields with a quaint conceit of the time—a ram with the word 'Sam,' intended to form his complete rebus. Over the first and third arches are seen the arms of Sherborne Abbey—a cross and crozier. The other shields bear the arms of Abbotsbury Abbey, of Cerne Abbey, of Milton Abbey, of Canterbury, of St. David's, and the device of a dragon in a tun, with the letters T. L., is another ingenious attempt to make a name apparent, and is intended to commemorate Thomas Langton, who was bishop of Sarum in 1484." The flooring of the nave is of patent tiles of a warm colour. The porch, which has also been restored, has been freed from the iron gates which formerly stood below it. Most of the zig-zag work consists of the original stones. The doors are of oak, studded with iron bolts, and quite plain. The Horsey monument, which formerly rested in the north transept, has been removed to the chapel on the north side of the chancel. The mutilated figures have been restored. The sum spent on the nave, according to our authority, is 7,000*l*. and 5,000*l*. more have been expended upon the central part of the church, and the north and south transepts. To this total amount of 12,000*l*. already expended, Earl Digby has contributed—towards the nave 2,500*l*., in the restoration of the south transept (effected entirely at his Lordship's expense), 2,500*l*., towards the tower, 1,500*l*., total 6,500*l*. The parish by rate have given 2,000*l*., and upwards of 4,000*l*. have been subscribed by the public. These amounts, added to Mrs. Toogood's legacy of 500*l*., with interest, leave a balance of about 1,000*l*. to the credit of the works. The total additional expense to be incurred in the completion of the edifice is 8,000*l*. leaving about 7,000*l*. more to be raised.

Leighton.—At Leighton, near Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, the foundation-stone of a new church, to be called the Church of the Holy Trinity, was laid on the 7th inst. by the

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